

March 10th 2017

Headteacher's News

It has been another busy week at school, where our children have been involved in a range of exciting and challenging learning experiences. On Tuesday, we had a day visit from a County Advisor and he reported: "Conduct is exemplary and attitudes to learning are very positive." He was impressed with the quality of teaching and learning that he saw and in particular how teachers engaged with and supported the children. It was a useful day of reflection to consider our strengths and how we can continue to improve the learning experiences for all our pupils.

The children were also given positive feedback on their behaviour from the Music for Schools teacher who came in to take an assembly on encouraging children to take up musical instruments. If your child is in year 2 upwards, please feel free to come along next Wednesday evening from 6.30pm if you would like to find out more about instrumental lessons.

Our school council made the most of the warm weather and met this week in our outdoor classroom, where they drew together ideas for improving the school. These ideas included more computer time, an outside water fountain, big connect four and other games, plus children from secondary school coming to lead lunchtime games.

Thank you for your continuing support.

Foundation Stage News

We hope that all parents are now receiving the weekly letters from Nursery or Reception teachers via email and/or eSchools. Please let the class teacher know if you are not receiving them. It is important that you get these letters as it is the main form of communication from us to you each week and contains important dates and reminders. It also explains the children's learning during the week. We hope that you find them informative.

After the success of Grandparent's Day in foundation last year, we would like to host this again. Please find dates and details on the weekly Nursery and Reception letters.

On behalf of the Foundation team we would like to thank Grove Cottage for donating a number of 'Mr Men drawstring bags'. We will be using some of these to set up 'writing bags' so the children can use them and take them wherever they play to encourage them to write in all areas of their learning environment!

Year 2 News

As part of this term's topic work on Bounce, both class 3 and 4 enjoyed designing and making their own plasticine creatures. The children then wrote some wonderful detailed descriptions of them.



Year 4 News

THE BLUE Abyss – "In year four, we have been learning about the blue abyss. We have been watching the Blue Planet on Friday afternoons recently since it is linked to our Topic. Year four have been researching the creatures on the school iPads. We found out that most of the creatures from the Twilight zone are mainly transparent"...

By Isaac, Eva, Max B and Max Q

Important Dates

Wed 22 nd Mar	2.40 Spelling Parent Workshop Yr 1
Wed 15 th Mar	Yr 3 Natural History Museum
Wed 15 th Mar	2.40 Spelling Parent Workshop Yr 2
Wed 15 th Mar	6.30pm Music for Schools
Fri 17 th Mar	Closing Date - Nursery Applications
Tues 21 st Mar	Yr 6 Rhodes Music Festival
Wed 22 nd Mar	9.30am Aspects – Self-Esteem
Fri 24 th Mar	Red Nose Day
Fri 24 th Mar	Association Cake Sale
Tues 28 th Mar	9.30am-Reception Grandparents' Day
Wed 29 th Mar	9.00am-Nursery Grandparents' Day
Wed 29 th Mar	Autism Day
Wed 29 th Mar	2.40 Phonics Parent Workshop Yr 1
Wed 29 th Mar	2.30pm eSafety talk for parents
Thur 30 th Mar	1.30pm-Nursery Grandparents' Day
Fri 21 st April	Association Film Night

Work Sharing

Reception:

Tues 21st Mar 2.45-3.15pm – coffee at 2.15pm
Nursery:

Wed 22nd Mar 9.15-9.45am followed by coffee

Thurs 23rd Mar 2.30-3.00pm followed by coffee

Thurs 23rd Mar 2.45pm Year 1 work sharing

Mon 27th Mar 2.45pm Year 2 Work sharing

Mon 27th Mar 2.15pm Year 6 Talk on Y6 SATs

Mon 27th Mar 2.45pm Year 6 Work Sharing

Tues 28th Mar 2.45pm Year 4 Work Sharing

Wed 29th Mar 3.00pm Year 3 Work Sharing

Wed 29th Mar 3.00pm Year 5 Work Sharing

Fri 31st Mar End of Term 2pm

Tues 18th Apr First Day of Summer Term

Fri 26th May Inset Day

Mon 5th June Inset Day

*Red = New Items

Safeguarding

Hertfordshire Road Safety Partnership

Law change for using your mobile phone whilst driving:

It is illegal to use a hand-held phone or similar device while driving, or riding a motorcycle - this is still the case stopped at traffic lights or queuing in traffic.

Did you know? It is also illegal to use a hand-held mobile when supervising a learner driver or rider.

New penalties now mean that motorists and motorcyclists caught using a phone while driving and riding will receive six penalty points on their licence and a £200 fine. This means that new drivers, within two years of passing their test, run the risk of losing their licence for a single offence.

Keep safe – put your phone away in the glove compartment.

World Book Day Photos

Photos from World Book Day are still on display in the Reception Foyer and can be purchased for £2 each (9 x 6 inches). Do pick up an order form and return completed to the office with the correct money (£2 per print) by Thursday 16th March.

Photos will be available to order direct from Photobox after the closing date.

Cake Sale

Class 8 are having a cake sale at break time on Friday 17th March. Cakes will be 50p each and the money raised will go to charity.

Red Nose Day

Friday 24th March – please could children wear a red nose or red accessory and bring in a small donation.

Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers

Please remember to collect these and bring them to the office as last year we managed to acquire lots of useful PE equipment which the children have enjoyed using over the course of the year.

Five Mums on the Run!

This Mother's Day five Year 2 mums (Mel, Harriet, Helen, Irene and Caron) are running a 10k to raise money for the British Heart Foundation's research and to help raise awareness that women (no matter how young, healthy or fit) have heart attacks too! If you would like to donate to this important cause, please visit our team fundraising page. Thank you.

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Melanie-Mully>



[Read Melanie's story](#)

www.justgiving.com

Melanie is raising money to help British Heart Foundation

Orchestra

There will be no orchestra until next term as year 6 are rehearsing for the Music Festival.

Daily Mile

It is great to see so many children still coming to the daily mile. Parent helpers do not need to go into the office to sign in now, please go straight to the playground.

Uniform

Mrs Parrish will be in Reception after school on **Monday 13th March** selling new non-logo uniform, e.g. trousers, skirts, PE kit, etc.

Northgate Association

Used Uniform Sale – to be held after school on **Thursday 16th March**.

Spring is fast approaching and we have lots of great quality used uniform! £1 per item and all proceeds go the Association.

Cake Sale

Friday 24th March at 3.15pm. Each child will come home with a paper plate next Friday 17th March - please fill the plate with cakes or biscuits and bring back into school on the morning of the sale. The goodies will be for sale at the end of morning Nursery and at 3.15pm for £1 a plate.

Summer Fayre

Save the Date – **Saturday 10th June**

If you would like to get involved at the start there are many areas you can help.

We'd really welcome volunteers/groups of friends to run specific areas of the Fayre. So if you'd like to do publicity, run the raffle, organise the children's competitions, arrange displays for the arena, run the refreshments or have any other ideas of how you can help please get in touch. Newcomers really welcome!

Please email helen.badcock@btinternet.com

Celebration of Achievements

This week's stars of the week in Foundation Stage were:

Nursery: Luca
Reception: Jack (R1)
Hollie (R2)

This week our 'Learner of the Week' focused on Artist of the Term.

In our assembly today we shared some artwork across the school that has been produced over the last term.

Well done to:

Class 1: Harry S	Class 7: Max B
Class 2: Violet	Class 8: Harriet
Class 3: Jessie	Class 9: Evie & Sophie
Class 4: Violet	Class 10: Amelia & Emilia
Class 5: Nancy	Class 11: Tom
Class 6: Amelia	Class 12: Molly

SEND

World Autism Week

We are pleased to be supporting World Autism Week at Northgate (week beginning 27th March). Children may come into school wearing a blue accessory (tie, scarf, socks, etc.), if they wish, on **Wednesday 29th March** and Miss Harding will be carrying out an assembly for the children.

Touch Typing

Just to inform parents that touch typing sessions with Miss Harding will stop at Easter time (the last week will be beginning 27th March). Parents who wish to continue touch typing sessions at home can do so by going to:
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/guides/z3c6tfr>
<http://www.doorwayonline.org.uk/typing/texttype2/>

Community News

Bishop's Stortford Choral Society will be performing at the Methodist Church at 7.30pm on Saturday 18th March. For more information please call 01279 715001 or visit www.singwithbscs.org.uk

Fab Science will be running Easter Workshops at various locations for children aged 5-12. For more information please call 07799 624777, email clubs@fabscience.co.uk or visit www.facebook.com/FabScience